

Name: _____

Miss Skirtich

English 12: British Literature

4 December 2018

"Macbeth" Act III- Writing Prompt

Total Score: _____/30 points

*Choose one of the following prompts below and compose a succinct, thorough response using at least 4 **pieces of textual evidence (QUOTES!)** Make sure to cite your quotes from the play properly. Example: If your quote is from Act III Scene v Lines 36 to 37, then cite it like this ----> (iii.v.36-37). Period goes outside the second parenthesis unless the quote ends in a question mark or an exclamation mark. Good luck!*

Good luck!

Please label your document *Your last name- Macbeth WP#3* and then share it with Miss Skirtich on OneDrive and on TurnItIn.com!

1. Rather than simply ordering the murderers to kill Banquo, Macbeth converses with them at length. Why do you think that he does this? Create a diary entry for one of the murderers where he reviews his discussions with Macbeth. Include specific examples to support your ideas. (Act III, scene i)
2. Lady Macbeth, apparently, was not involved in the planning of Banquo's murder. Write a diary entry in which Macbeth explains why he wants Lady Macbeth to be innocent of the knowledge until she can applaud his deed. What does this say about this marriage and relationship? Be specific. (Act III, scene ii)
3. When Fleance flees at the end of scene three, he does not return to Macbeth's castle. Would he have any reason not to return? Imagine you are Fleance. Write a letter to a friend or family member explaining your reasons for not returning to Macbeth's castle. Include what happens at the scene of Banquo's murder. (Act III, scene iii)
4. If you were the director of scene four, would the ghost be visible to the audience or would it be, as Lady Macbeth suggests, a figment of Macbeth's imagination? In your written response, compose an explanation of the advantages and disadvantages of making the ghost invisible and defend your choice. (Act III, scene iv)
5. Few scholars believe that Act III, scene v with the witches, was actually written by Shakespeare. Some directors cut it from their productions. Imagine you are involved in a production of the play and that the director has chosen to cut scene five from the performance. Write a letter to your director defending or challenging his/her decision. What would be gained or lost by dropping this scene? Explain. (Act III, scene v)
6. Analyze the dialogue between the two characters Lennox and another lord in scene six. What evidence is there in the speeches that would suggest that this scene should be read sarcastically? In your response, carefully construct and record your analysis and show your evidence. (Act III, scene vi)

Compose your response on a word document, using the following guidelines to help you compose a great response:

- a. **Use 12pt. Times New Roman font, 1" margins throughout the entire document, double space the body of your paper (leave the MLA heading and title in single space). The MLA heading is on the top here!**
- b. **When talking about characters, always use PRESENT TENSE instead of past tense. Since characters live on forever in books and plays, we refer to them in present, even if they die in the text.**

Example: When Hamlet stabs Polonius when he is in Gertrude's room, he **kills** Polonius.

- c. **Never use contractions.** When you write formally, avoid all contractions that appear as slang in writing.

Example: Instead of "**shouldn't**" write out "**should not**"

- d. **Only use 3rd person voice when speaking.** This means to never use 1st person or 2nd person POV. That means no **I, you, we, us**. Use **he, she, it, they, the reader** instead.

Example: Instead of "**We** learn about Claudius's guilt in the play" say "**The reader** learns about Claudius's guilt."

- e. **Limit your use of TO BE verbs.** These verbs are helping verbs that attach themselves to other active verbs and water down the meaning of your sentences. Make your verbs more active and help to illustrate your point by eliminating these pesky words.

Caution: NEVER change words inside of quotes. As soon as you do that, it's no longer a quote.

Ex: Instead of saying, "Hamlet and Ophelia **are fighting** throughout the play" say instead, "Hamlet and Ophelia **fight** throughout the play."

Use only **10** of them in your paper to make your writing awesome!

Am	Is	Are	Was	Were
Be	Being	Been	Have	Has
Had	Could	Would	Should	May
Might	Must	Do	Does	Did
	Will	Shall	Can	

Notes: _____
